



State of New Hampshire

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

January 8, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney, Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney Hesse:

It is my understanding that your office is now accepting public comment in the case of U.S. v. Microsoft. I write in support of that agreement.

This settlement is truly an achievement by both parties and should be approved quickly. I do not work in the technology field, but have done substantial research on this issue and believe that this case has gone on far too long. In addition to spending too many taxpayer dollars, the government has unfairly persecuted this company and it should end, now.

The frustration of Microsoft's competitors is understandable but misplaced. They have the opportunity to offer products that would compete with Microsoft's, but have not had the innovation to do so. The proposed settlement will allow Microsoft's competitors and customers more freedoms and it will help them become more profitable. Further restrictions or controls placed on Microsoft by the government will not be beneficial but instead will force America to take a backseat to other nations in the field of technology.

Spending millions of additional dollars in these proceedings is no longer necessary or appropriate. This is a time of national crisis, and we need to be cognizant of the economy and public spending. It is now imperative that we put more resources into defense and national security rather than on needless litigation against an innovative company.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rogers Johnson
State Representative